THE HINDOO PATRIOT

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NOTICE.

The Trustees of the Hindoo Patriot Newspaper and Press have this day appointed Babu Radhacharan Pal, son of the late Hon'ble Kristodas Pal, Rai Bahadur C. I. E., of No. 108 Baranossy Ghose's Street, Manager of the Hindoo Patriot Press, and authorised him to sign all bills and to grant receipts under his signature as Manager for all sums remitted to him. Mofussil subscribers are requested to remit their subscriptions to him.

With the consent and by desire of the Trustees.

RAJENDRALALA MITRA.
One of the Trustees.

Calcutta, September 20th, 1884.

THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 22ND SEPTEMBER.

IT MAY be a matter of interest with the naturalists to know the period of natural life of parrots and similar other birds. We have heard from our friends who are lords of the brute and the fowl, that this class of animals live but for a short time, but it will surprise them to learn of a certain Madagascar parrot dying in the London Zoo after a term of captivity of 54 years. What a theme for Ornithologists to descant upon!

THE PUNJABI PATHANS are said to have a peculiarity in the institution of criminal proceedings in cases of capital offence. It is said, the relatives of the murdered person not only accuse the guilty but implicate his relatives also. The custom having grown out of all proportions, the dispensers of justice have had to confess that it is "impossible to disregard altogether the custom among the Pathans of the district, which is a matter of notoriety, to accuse all the members of a family when one or more of them commit an offence of the kind." They also indulge in the practice of transference of crime from one party to another, and this they do, to save the honour of their womankind. This recalls to mind the story of the wolf and the lamb. If the lamb was by vulpine law liable to pay the penalty of his sire in having traduced the character of his lupine excellency, why should not the Pathans follow suit? If they could follow a higher law they could carry the sin of the father to the third generation. Practically many to this day suffer for father Adam's penchant for apples.

WE HEAR Mr. Potts, of Trinity College, Cambridge, a mathematician, has obtained a Royal Charter for establishing an institution to be called "St. Paul's Hostel," similar in character to that founded by Professor Monier Williams. The solitary calculation of the mathematician on the chances of gain has perhaps led him to set up a rival establishment. But we believe the litterateur will have the better of the figure-dealer, as his Boarding house, has many more attractions than those of board and lodging. We hope this competition will make living in England cheap.

THE *Akhbar-i-am* of Lahore says:—It is a fact that a private understanding has been arrived at between England and Afghanistan to the effect that the latter should keep no communication with any other Power except through the medium of England. But we do not know what weight this private arrangement may carry with the Powers. It appears that England has been beaten on this question. This must be one of the one thousand and one stories which are being sown broadcast regarding the relationship of England with Afghanistan, and we must swallow such fiddle-faddle *cum grano salis*.

AT the Portsmouth Amphitheatre lately, the great attraction was the daring entry made into the lion's den by Col. Boone and Miss Nellie Carlotta, and the same feat was performed by a young naval officer. For a few days he had made a boast on board ship that he would face the animals in the den, and heavy bets were laid that he would not make the entry. He accepted the bets, and, in the presence of a large company, including a number of officers from the ships in the harbour, in company with Col. Boone he entered the cage, and walked about among the beasts. The feat was watched by the spectators, who were almost breathless with excitement during the few moments the scene lasted, and on making his exit he fairly "brought down the house," appearing before the curtain no less than five times.

TUESDAY, 23RD SEPTEMBER.

IT IS AFFIRMED that in India one acre of light calcareous land will produce 80 maunds of sunflower seed which will yield in the press, forty-five gallons of oil, and that sunflower culture could be made highly remunerative.

THE THRUST SYSTEM of railway conducting is being experimented on a railway near London. The system is for the present available for short service only, as the train requires a sufficiently powerful air pressure for moving it from one station to another.

THE Paris *Figaro*, a leading Republican organ, advises France to abandon all friendly relations with England which has always thwarted her and whose friendship is false and hollow. At the same time the *Figaro* recommends an alliance with Germany, which has been an honest enemy, and would make an honest ally.

WE HEAR that work has already been begun in the Sitarampore Nagpore Railway Line in the shape of throwing up the earthwork between Sitarampur and Purulia as a precautionary measure to meet the impending famine in the Manbhoom District.

THE BEHAR PAPER says that a Roving Commission is soon to be appointed to enquire into and report on the operation of irrigation works in the Presidency of Bengal. This is laudable of the Bengal Government, but may we ask why a Roving Commission was denied in the case of the Bengal Tenancy Bill? Was it because the Tenancy Bill is less important than the irrigation canal works, or what? We believe this commission is due to the outspokenness of Mr. Larmini, Commissioner of the Cuttuck division, who very severely denounced the waste and irregularities caused in his division by the Engineers, and for which, it is rumoured, he has, to a certain extent, forfeited the respect of the Engineers and the confidence of Government. Outspokenness is a virtue which finds little favor at head-quarters just now, *pace* Mr. Harrison.

IT IS SAID that one of the younger sons of the King of Sweden and Norway, who is at present on a tour round the world, will pay Madras a visit next cold weather.

THE ENGLISHMAN has shewn the Vernacular papers their danger signal, and said that because the leading exponent of public opinion in England, the *Times*, has suggested the desirability of gagging the native press, he sees the possibility of the revival of the Press Act for the second time. The *Times* may be angry with the Vernacular Press, but who showed the red-rag to the Bull, to incense him? The loose translations, generally worded in more inflamatory language than the originals contained, of scraps from the articles, and the kind feeling which the Calcutta correspondent entertains of the native press, have incensed the leading exponent of public opinion in England more than any thing like the free expression of opinion by the native press on measures of Government. That this spirit of intolerance should travel over seas and oceans to the shores of England is much to be regretted, and we hope the *Times* will take upon itself the duty of ascertaining the spirit of the vernacular press instead of imbibing its knowledge from the jaundiced views of its Calcutta correspondent.

THE TRIPARTITE conference of three continental Emperors, which we announced sometime ago has come about. The *Journal de St. Petersburgh* says that the object of this meeting is to strengthen the *entente cordiale* existing among them. There is to be no fresh alliance, and the three Empires will keep a strict watch on the Anarchists.

AN EXTRAORDINARY accidental death occurred on Monday night in the compound of St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, at Bangalore. The Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin was being celebrated. As St. Mary's is the principal Church of the native Roman Catholics, and this feast is kept annually with great rejoicings, many thousands of natives resort to it, and the evening is always devoted to going round the church in procession, accompanied with music, fireworks, &c. The confusion is, in consequence, very great, and much difficulty is experienced in preserving anything like order. On Monday evening the crowd was immense. During the service in the church the large edifice was filled to suffocation, and the compound was also crowded. After service was over, the usual native demonstrations began, and were kept up until nearly eleven o'clock at night. A statue of the Blessed Virgin was several times carried round in procession. At the close, when the statue was being put down for the last time, a young man, a Eurasian, of about 26 years of age, named Samuel Lawrence, in an extraordinary manner was caught underneath the heavy platform, which weighs some 4 cwt, and it was let down on him, without anyone noticing his being there. He was crushed to death. Strange to say the fact of the fatal accident was not discovered until about 8 o'clock the next morning, when an orphan student, passing, noticed one of deceased's feet protruding from underneath the platform. It is not the car festival of the Hindus alone that is to blame.

WE HEAR, Mr. W. V. G. Taylor, Magistrate of Nuddea, has been transferred to Jessore, and Major Ramsay has been asked to render an explanation of his proceedings in the students' case.

WEDNESDAY, 24TH SEPTEMBER.

HIS HONOUR the Lieutenant-Governor has declined to relieve Mr. Cotton of his duties as Secretary to the Board of Revenue; if he were to accept of the nomination of the Calcutta Municipality he must discharge the duties of both offices. Here His Honour has erred again. But the people were prepared for it.

THAT THIEVES are sometimes ingenious in other crafts besides their own has just been proved at Karthaus, in Bohemia, where a young man who is serving a term of five years' imprisonment for robbery has, without the aid of a single tool, constructed a watch which will go for six hours without winding up. It consists of morsels of thread and straw, two needles, a pin, and a piece of paper for the dial plate.

WE HEAR Mr. Nishi Kantha Chattopadhya, Principal, Hydrabad College, intends resigning his post owing to some unpleasantness having arisen between him and some of the Government officials.

THE KANDAHAR correspondent of a contemporary warmly eulogises the liberality of the Ameer towards the poor people. "Since the days of Ahmed Shah," to give a literal rendering of the Persian original, "there has not been a second king who has ruled over the land with such sway. Fear has fallen on all men, that is on the great men, who are restrained by terror from practising cruelties against the poor; that the common people are highly pleased with the 'Agdas Ameer Sahib'; for he has made great provision for the ryots."

THE *Pioneer* says:—Another case illustrative of the class of scandal revealed by Mrs. Weldon's proceedings is likely soon to come before the courts at home. A private correspondent describes it as that of a man who "married money and spent it: ill-treated the wife till brain-fever ensued: seized the opportunity to place her in a private lunatic asylum: when no payments were forthcoming the proprietor of the asylum discovered his prisoner was not insane, and she now charges her husband with adultery and cruelty." The man was once pretty well-known in these Provinces. "Better known than trusted" perhaps.

IT IS reported that the Maharajah of Mysore intends visiting Calcutta next cold weather and will be accompanied by his Dewan and suite. The object of his visit is to see the Viceroy.

IT IS worthy of notice, remarks the *Pioneer*, that at the recent examinations held at the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester, the first place was secured by Syad Muhammad Hossain, who gained the gold medal usually granted to the candidate who obtains the highest marks in the final examination for the diploma. This prize was first secured by a native of India about a year ago, when Mr. Sen, one of the

Bengal scholars at the college, obtained his diploma; but Mr. Hossain's success is perhaps more parise-worthy, for he has gone through the whole course without any pecuniary help from the Government; and so it is solely due to his own great industry and perseverance.

THE GENIUS for advertising does not appear to desert the American missionaries when they come to India. The Methodist Episcopal Church Press at Lucknow brings its publications to notice with a vigour which an up-country paper thinks would do credit to the soap trade. On a violently coloured sheet of paper we read of the merits of a certain key to the Middle-class Reader. "Do not suppose that because the price is low the book is not worth much. Books can be made cheaper at the M. E C. Press than at any other, when correct books and large numbers are called for. We cannot tell you how this is done, for it is a secret; but it is a fact." In announcing an edition *in usum scholarum* of Washington Irving's "Sketch Book" the publishers rise with their subject. All other copies are liable to be faulty. It is as likely as not that a question will be put where the error of the edition occurs. What then?—disappointment and crushing defeat!! Recognised standing in scholarship impossible!! Get the best edition. Send for copies at once."

THURSDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER.

REGARDING THE attitude of the Ameer towards the Boundary Commission the *Pioneer* tells us that the latest news from Afghanistan is satisfactory, as showing that the Amir is making considerable efforts towards forwarding the Afghan Boundary Commission on their journey. Sir Robert Sandeman's native assistant has been down the route to or towards the Helmund, and reports the Amir's people all in readiness. Supplies and water have been stored, and such other preparations as are possible made with a promptitude that under the circumstances is surprising. While on the subject of the Commission we may state that the number of camp-followers is likely to be considerably cut down before the Commission starts on its march, the crowd of these myrmidons having swollen, as is usual with Indian undertakings at the last moment, to an outrageous extent.

WE UNDERSTAND that His Honor the Lieutenant Governor will leave Darjeeling for the plains about the 25th October and will be settled in town by the end of November next.

HER MAJESTY'S Government has referred to that of Ceylon the question of subsidising any Mail Company after 1888 when the contract with the P. and O. Company expires. The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce, on being referred to has objected to the change, pointing out the political objection, amongst others, of all the mails being carried by French subsidised steamers.

THE *Pioneer* says:—Our Madras Correspondent telegraphs that a report is current there that Mr. Forster Webster is in the running with Mr Carmichael, now at home, for the vacancy in the Vice-regal Council caused by the retirement of Mr. Gibbs. The post should not be given to a retired officer, however high his merit. It is one of the highest prizes in the service, and should belong to those who are now in harness.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Pioneer*, who signs himself 'A Railway Man,' states that the recent Anglo-Indian Defence Association meeting at Jubbulpore *was* attended by the "chief Civil and Military Officers," thus traversing our correspondent Albion's statement to the contrary effect. The Deputy Commissioner, the General Commanding the station, the Brigade-Major are quoted as being present, but whether as spectators only, is not stated. Where's then the Vice-regal mandate prohibiting Government Officers attending political meetings? Was it meant for the natives only?

ACCORDING to a contemporary some information was received by the last mail from England to the effect that the Secretary of State has asked Dr. Hunter to prolong his stay in England for five months, for the purpose of preparing the report on the progress of India to be presented to Parliament next session. Dr. Hunter had declined the propo-al, but had agreed to make up a skeleton draft report for the purpose during his privilege leave. Is this a puff for Dr. Hunter? Fancy London literatii yielding the palm to an outsider. Dr. Hunter returns to India on the first of November.

THE FOLLOWING appears in the *Times of India*:—"A Hindoo woman, named Banee, aged about 25 years, while in her house at Walkeshwar, was bitten by a snake on her right ankle. Her husband, on hearing of the occurrence, immediately applied a bandage above her ankle, and called in one Krishna Dadoo, a famous quack who has a reputation for curing snake bites. The quack recommended the chicken cure, whereupon twelve chickens were brought to the house and applied to the wound. Each chicken being affected with the poison, they died one after the other. Two more chickens were applied, and were not affected by the poison. Banee was then declared by the quack to be cured and out of danger. On the matter being reported to the police, the woman was taken to the J. J. Hospital, where she was detained for about five hours, and then left apparently quite well. We have had enough of such gossip.

FRIDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER.

THE LATEST NEWSPAPER *gup* about the Municipal matter is that Mr. Macaulay has an idea. This idea is about as preposterous a piece of ignenuity as even Mr. Macaulay could be proud of. The present Municipal law is to be abrogated; the Calcutta Municipality is to be evaporated; the Suburban Municipalities are to pass away; the suburbs and town are to be divided into six affiliated Corporations; each of these will look after details within its own limits; general matters will be looked after by a Central Metropolitan Corporational Board. The six sister Municipalities are to live in peace and harmony with one another, with the Central Board, the Executive, the public, the Government, and with such formidable officials as Surgeon-General and Sanitary Commissioner. Under this scheme, the Park Street section and Hastings would be a Municipality in itself, Burra Bazar would be another, Alipore another, and so on. The idea is delightful, for these six Deputy Municipalities, under a *pucca* Corporation, would undoubtedly turn out a veritable happy family. But, as the *Englishman* would say, "the rumour requires confirmation." And yet we would not be surprised if it turned out true. Bureaucracy, like autocracy delights in the old maxim—*divide et impera*.

A CORRESPONDENT from a hill station, writing to a contemporary, has taken to heart the treatment he received from three of his fair acquaintances. One gave him a jerky nod of the head, another sniggered in her *rikhsha*, and turned her head the other way, but the cut from the young lady on horseback was the unkindest of all, she merely opened her eyes wider than usual, giving in fact a sort of wink averted. He then breaks out into "a bow proper, or even an inclination of any sort there was not, although I waved my hat gracefully in the air. 'Is this' side' I wonder or simply that these unsophisticated Misses being fresh from the school-room, and this being their first experience of society, have not yet got into its usages. However this may be, I give notice that I don't mean to take off my hat any more to any lady, young or old, who does not give me a real proper bow when she passes. I enclose my card for your information. I shall be recognised up here sufficiently when I say that I am the good-looking young fellow who wears a blanket coat of an afternoon, corduroys and gaiters, and a Terai hat with a yellow and red *Puggree*."How hard are some to please even in the matter of a bow bow recognition.

THE *Pall Mall Gezette* says: "There is a revival of the outcry for the suppression of newspapers in India. The Calcutta Correspondent of the *Times* is alarmed at the 'seditious and scurrilous tone' of the native press, and he finds that many 'moderate and liberal-minded men' (does the correspondent include himself in that category, we wonder) 'are beginning to ask whether the re-enactment of Lord Lytton's Gagging Act is not a matter of absolute and pressing necessity.' It is not only the Vernacular papers which need gagging. 'Some Anglo-native newspapers go to equal lengths,' and they, too, will need a little official regulation. The process is evidently one easy to begin, and very difficult to limit. Perhaps if bureaucratic control of the press were once established it might even be extended to correspondents. The epithet 'seditious' is applicable to efforts to excite Anglo-Indian opinion against the Government, as well as efforts to excite native opinion against the English; and if the present governors of India were asked, they might perhaps say, that all the Vernacular and Anglo-native papers put together had never increased their difficulties in governing the country to anything like the same extent as the violent and inflammatory language of a certain anti-native correspondent."

SAYS THE *Pioneer*:—It is now settled that the Viceroy will leave the selection of the new Foreign Secretary to his successor, Mr. H. M. Durand, officiating from November, when Mr. Grant goes home, and virtually retires. As this will be the fourth occasion of Mr. Durand's acting in the post, his qualification as a candidate for the permanent appointment will probably be considered complete. If a man of exceptional experience in a Department and capacity for its work is to be considered too young at thirty-five for the most responsible post in it, he always will be. Sir Charles Aitchison, like Mr. Durand, sowed his official wild oats early, and was made Foreign Secretary at that same age.

SATURDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER

THE *Times of India*, quoting from Thackeray's *Vanity Fair* says:—"What do men know about women's martyrdoms? We should go mad, had we to endure the hundredth part of those daily pains which are meekly borne by many women. Ceaseless slavery meeting with no reward; constant gentleness and kindness met by cruelty as constant; love, labor, patience, watchfulness, without even the acknowledgment of so much as a good word; all this, how many of them have to bear in quiet, and appear abroad with cheerful faces as if they felt nothing. Tender salves that they are they must needs be hypocrites and weak.", And again in the same book, the great novelist who towers like a giant among all the writers of his time, writes: "How many thousands of people are there, women for the most part, who are destined to endure this long slavery? Who are hospital nurses without wages,—Sisters of Charity if you like, without the romance and the sentiment of sacrifice—who strive, fast, watch, and suffer, unpitied; and fade away ignobly and unknown." There is nothing to be added to this. On women, all the world over, fall the heaviest burdens, the keenest sufferings, and one can only admire their marvellous endurance of evils for which they are in no way responsible.

DURING the recent Calcutta exhibition, trials were made, at the suggestion of the Government of India of certain fibre-extracting machines then in the exhibition. Partly owing to the difficulty of procuring all the fibres which it was desired to test, and partly from the defects of the machines then available, no conclusive results were arrived at. It is now proposed to renew the experiments under more favorable conditions with the assistance of the Agri-Horticultural Society of India, which has been asked to supply the requisite fibres. The objects in view are: (i) To secure such a competitive trial of machines and processes for the extraction of Indian fibres as may lead to the introduction into this country of a cheap, simple and portable fibre-extracting machine. (ii) To obtain the opinion of experts in India and in Europe as to the value of the fibres obtained by the trials, and the uses to which they can be put. The experiments will be carried out in Calcutta on the 15th October and following days under the management of Mr. J. W. Hanlon, Superintendent of Jail Manufactures, assisted by Mr. Liotard, of the Revenue and Agricultural Department of the Government of India, whose services have been placed at the disposal of the Bengal Government with effect from the 15th September. Stems and other fibrous portions of fibre-bearing plants or trees, and as far as possible motive power, will be provided by Government. Intending competitors have been invited to place themselves in communication with Mr. Hanlon at the office of the Inspector General of Jails, Calcutta, not later than the 1st October next, and to state on which fibrous plants they wish to experiment and to what extent, in order that arrangements may be made for providing sufficient quantities of material to be operated on. If the number of machines entered is sufficient to produce a satisfactory competition, the Government will award a sum of Rs. 2,000 in prizes, the respective amounts of which will subsequently be determined.

WE HEAR it stated in connection with the notorious Rosen case of Mymensing, which we noticed in a recent issue, that the Magistrate Mr. Glazier, refused to let the Editor of the *Bharat Mihir* have copies of the depositions of witnesses and the judgment, on the ground that such copies could not be granted to any one not directly connected with the case. We see no earthly reason why the copies should not have been given, provided the applicant paid proper fees. Was the Magistrate unwilling that the public should have any opportunity of noticing this gross failure of justice?

MR. C. W. EATON has been appointed Commissioner for India for receiving Exhibits for the coming Grand International and Universal Exhibition to be held at Antwerp, Belgium, in May 1885. Those who feel disposed to exhibit any of their goods are requested to place themselves in communicati with him as early as possible, stating the nature Exhibits, quantity, and space required, etc.

THE TOTAL land revenue of Bengal for the yea 1883-84 was originally estimated at Rs. 379,88,00 and the Provincial share at Rs. 1,25,91,000. The latest return form the Comptroller-General shows that the total land revenue of the province may have amounted to Rs. 3,79,36,000 and the Provincial share amounts to Rs. 1,22,26,000.

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WE BEG to acknowledge the receipt of the following publications: 1. Report on the Police Administration of the Province of Assam for 1883. 2. Outline Grammar of the Kacharibari (Bara) language. By Rev. S. Endle. 3. Alochona, a Bengali monthly, for Asvin and Kartic. 4. Dhurmo Byakha part, 1 By Pundit Sasadhar Tarkachuramony. 5. Report by the Madras Provincial Committee, on Education, 1884.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London, September 20th.—Further details, concerning the defeat of the Chinese at Kimpai, show that the first accounts were greatly exaggerated.

21st.—The troops told off to form a camel corps will embark for Egypt from Portsmouth on 26th instant.

The second batch of boats for the Expedition have been despatched.

22nd. Lord Dufferin arrived here yesterday from Constantinople. It is reported that Sir Robert Morier will be appointed British Ambassador at Constantinople. Serious riots of Nationalists have taken place at Castle William during which the police barracks were attacked and wrecked.

Cairo, September 19th.—The Members of the Caisse of the Public Debt, with the exception of the English and Italian members, have decided to protest against the proposed suspension of the revenues assigned to the service of the debt.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1884.

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.

The Managing Committee of the British Indian Association has addressed an elaborate letter to the Government of Bengal about the Bill for the extension of Local Self-Government in Bengal. When early in January 1882 the Committee had occasion to address the Government on this very subject for the first time, they hailed with feelings of satisfaction and gratitude, the proposal of the Government of India, to bestow on the people of this country, the inestimable boon of local Self-Government. But the present Bill is disappointing in the extreme. The hopes that were raised in the minds of our countrymen that their honorable aspirations would at last find a vent in the political institutions which had so much advanced civilization and good government in Europe, are not likely to be realized, when the Bill in its present state is passed into law. The Bill as it stands is to a great extent permissive, and makes it difficult to determine as to what latitude will be given by the Lieutenant-Governor to the operations of the principle enunciated by the Government of India. Looking, however, to the positive sections of the Bill, the letter goes on to say, and to the power that may be extended under them, they fall far short of the object of the Government of India, as disclosed in its minutes of September 30th and October 10th of 1881 and of the legitimate aspirations of the people.

However much might be the diversity of opinion among high officials, as to the extent to which powers of free action in local matters should be extended and the checks and control which should be established, to prevent mismanagement, there was an absolute *consensus* of opinion, that in local matters, more power should be given to the people, than what they then possessed, and that the measure should be such as to justify the use of the phrase "self-government." No sensible man could think that the freedom to be given was to be absolute or anything like what obtains in the free cities of Europe. Every body knew that the Government would reserve full powers for check and control for the safe-guard of public interests, as the experiment would fail if it did not do so. But subject to adequate control, there should be such an extension of power as would amount to a local autonomy limited to affairs of specified kinds, and justify the use of the epithet designed for it. Taking this view of the case and comparing the provisions of the Bill with those of the different local Acts, which are now in force in the different provinces under the control of the Government of Bengal, the conclusion rightly arrived at by the Committee of the British Indian Association is that the Bill does not grant any such extension, and in some respects there has been a positive reduction of power. The most important power is that of taxation and the extent to which it is extended affords the best test of the measure of confidence reposed in the representatives of the people by the Government, and in this respect the Bill fails to show that any extension of power is contemplated. The Bill considerably circumscribes the absolute power of fixing the rate of Road Cess, which the Road Cess Committee had under the original Road Cess Act. And is not this a positively retrograde movement? Next to taxation, the most important power is that of Expenditure, in which direction also there is a positive draw-back. The Cess committees fix the budget of their expenditure subject only to revision of divisional Commissioners. They select the works which they wish to undertake, and determine how much and in what rate they will spend money thereon. But under the Bill, no such powers in reality can be exercised by the Local Boards. They are, indeed, required to prepare and pass the annual budget; but the manner in which their liberty of action is retarded reduces their task to a mere formality, utterly devoid of all interest, responsibility and sense of duty. Sir Ashley Aden, the late Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, in a Resolution in reply to that of the Government of India, on the subject of Local Self-Government, said that "if the working of many of the District Committees has not hitherto been satisfactory and if the members have in too many cases exhibited indifference to the matters committed to their control the explanation is to be found in the limited nature of the control assigned to them." It can be more easily imagined than said how efficient these boards are likely to be when their controlling power is still more reduced. The real budgets are to be drawn up by Departmental Heads, who are all totally independent of them. The Engineer will be practically independent of the Board and subordinate to the Inspector of Works. In the Department of education the Board will be under the guidance of the Director of Public Instruction and of the Inspector of schools; and in the matter of medical relief the voices of the Surgeon General and of the Civil Surgeon, are to be paramount. The Boards are bound to find adequate money for the works recommended by these different authorities, but they can initiate and carry out no work of any moment on their own motion. Suggestions they are at liberty to make, just as any outsider can, though, not with the same weight; the power of action will remain elsewhere. The people will thus lose instead of gaining in the matter of administering their own affairs.

It might be said that if the Bill takes away some of the powers now enjoyed by the cess and other committees, it extends to the people, (at the option of the Government) the important privilege of electing their own representatives. But the great drawback lies in the Bill being simply *permissive* and making no advance on section 112 of the Cess Act which provides for election at the discretion of Government, which has for over 12 years remained inoperative. Unless the privilege be attended with some substantial powers of reasonably free action it can be of no avail. Speaking of the then existing committees Sir Ashley Eden said, that he had reason to think that in many cases appointments to these bodies had been made with reference to other considerations than the capacity of the selected individual for the management of affairs. The opportunity should now be taken of weeding out all non-effective members and appointing a really strong working body in each district. It is clear that unless the privilege be attended with some substantial powers of reasonably free action it can be of no avail. In the new Municipal Act the order for election is positive, with the exception of some places named in a schedule, and there is no reason why an arrangement of that kind should not prove successful in this case as well. The recognition of the elective system is sure to bring about a change for the better in the constitution of the local bodies, and the bestowal of a larger measure of independent authority, by stimulating a sense of responsibility, will add to their efficiency.

In this connection it may be noticed that some of the provisions made for the removal of members in section 10, are not in keeping with that sense of freedom which should attend the position of popularly elected officers. Under the Calcutta Municipal Act (Vide Sec. 20) the disqualifications for membership are bankruptcy, insolvency, absence from Calcutta (not from meetings) for six months and imprisonment. In the Cess Act of 1880 (Section 115) the period of absence is fixed also at six months. But the present Bill makes the rule still more stringent. It reduces the term of absence from six months to three and the absence is not to be from the *locale* of the Board or of a Union Committee, but from consecutive meetings, and alters imprisonment into "conviction of *any* offence or subjection by a Criminal Court to any such order as implies in the opinion of the Lieutenant-Governor a defect of character which unfits a person to be a member." This makes the tenure of office much more precarious than is desirable. We are bound to suppose, though recent affairs naturally incline us to be a little more cautious and circumspect, that the power invested in the Lieutenant-Governor will be most considerately and leniently used. But it should be borne in mind that in dealing with obscure individuals in Local Boards and Union Committees the power will practically be exercised by the local officers, and the knowledge of this cannot but create a strong sense of insecurity of tenure of office in the members and a corresponding obstruction of freedom of action. Freedom of election cannot compensate for the loss of power in the manner adverted to.

The complaint is pretty general and not without solid foundation, that members of Local Committees appointed by Government do not in the vast majority of cases take any real interest in their work. There is a chilling sensation of utter powerlessness in them and they attend meetings and in most cases vote, without any sense of responsibility. The attendance is far from regular and many persons believe, that had the law not provided for expulsion by a Gazetted announcement for protracted absence, and if the expulsion did not cause any sense of embarassment in the other relations of members with the District officers, the attendance would have been considerably worse. The opinion is, however, common, and is no doubt well-founded, when corroborated by such a careful observer as Sir Ashley Eden, whose views have been referred to above, that this state of things is not due to mere apathy or indifference to public duty but to the conviction of utter uselessness of activity. When the official Chairman takes the business of the Committee in his own hands, as he generally, if not invariably, does, there is scarcely any occasion for activity on the part of the members, unless there be occasion to dissent from his action, and such dissent, when attempted, is of no avail. In Municipal institutions, such dissent has proved, in some cases, seriously injurious to the dissenters, and the *role* of the dummy, under the circumstances, appears to the members the most prudent course to follow. Since it is the generous object of the Government to overcome this feeling and to induce the people to take a direct, active, personal interest in local public duties, the proper course to follow, is to repose more confidence in the representatives of the people, by extending to them more substantial power, and cherishing in them a sense of responsibility to the Government on the one hand and to their constituents on the other. But the Bill, as it stands, does not provide for such encourgement.

We regret the space at our command forbids us to examine the numerous details discussed in the letter of the British Indian Association. As the vast importance of the question requires that the *minutæ* should be closely examined we propose to revert to the subject in a future issue.

Before we stop to-day, however, we cannot resist the temptation of quoting, *in extenso*, the concluding para of the letter of the British Indian Association:

> In conclusion, the Committee of management of the British Indian Association beg leave to submit, with the highest deference, that, unless the Government is prepared to make larger concessions than those disclosed in the Bill, the most expedient course would be to drop the project altogether. The question of Local Self-Government has, of late, formed

one of the subjects of warm discussion, both in public and in private. The Committee would be wanting in the faithful discharge of their self-imposed duties if they omitted to mention that what the people aspire after is essentially different from what, so far as they can judge, the Bill presents to their countrymen. They are of opinion that the time has come when something ought to be done by Government to gratify these laudable aspirations of the people; and that fully alive as they are of the fact that the Government should not be exposed to any sort of risk, but, safeguarding such contingency, it should be prepared to comply with the wishes of the people. It is for the Government alone to consider what concessions it can make for the sake of the wishes of its subjects, and if no concession can be made by it, the Committee would respectfully urge that it should cease to excite hopes which must end in disappointment and give rise to angry criticism of a most unpleasant kind.

We need hardly say that this fully represents the views of all our countrymen on this most important question, and is sure to meet with a hearty response from all persons who have the real welfare of the country at heart. Do not let the noble scheme of Lord Ripon be converted into a farce and a delusion. Give us that which will satisfy our hopes and aspirations, or give us nothing at all. There is not the slightest use in dazzling and blinding our eyes by specious promises which the Government is not prepared to fulfil. The pain of disappointment will be productive of the most baneful consequences; and, in the interests of good government, we would deprecate in the strongest language the hesitating spirit in which the Bengal Government proposes to give effect to the noble intentions of the Viceroy.

THE MUNICIPAL IMBROGLIO.

THE die is cast; the Rubicon is crossed. The long threatened and long-appointed Commission of the Lieutenant-Governor under Section 28 of the Municipal Act is now a *fait accompli*, and has had its first formal sitting. Protests and exhortations have been of no avail, and the inexorable Lord of Belvedere and his still more inexorable counsellors have determined to cling to their blunder manfully. However much we might have disapproved of the proposal of the Commissioners for a *compromise* in the shape of an unofficial enquiry by the Sanitary Commissioner, or some other accredited agent of the Lieutenant-Governor, we had hoped—hoping against hope though it was—that the voice of common sense, reason and justice would yet prevail, and that the Lieutenant-Governor would not hesitate to accede to the request of the Commissioners for the postponement of the completion of their disgrace. But that was not to be. Our hope, vain and delusive as it was, has received a rude shock, and, though we were fully prepared for the result and are not a whit surprised at it, we must say that the rudeness of the shock is painful and tryingly severe. The Lieutenant-Governor, in his reply to the last appeal of the Commissioners, has told them that neither of their alternative prayers for the postponement of the sitting of his Commission and for relieving Mr. Cotton of his usual official duties can be granted. We had, in our last issue, somewhat anticipated as to what His Honor's reply would likely to be with respect to their prayers, but we never expected and no body in his sense could expect that the letter conveying their rejection would be so cruelly stunning.

The reply of the Lieutenant-Governor is dated the 20th of September, the day on which according to previous arrangements the Commission was to have held its first sitting, and it looks as if it was hastily indited, without bestowing a moment's thought as to what the writer was about, and despatched post-haste lest any delay in its transmission or delivery might even for a moment be misconstrued into a reprieve. Would that the Lieutenant-Governor had been equally quick in despatching the reprieve which could have saved the life of a poor fellow-mortal the other day at Barisal! The proceedings of the Lieutenant-Governor and his counsellors have, from the beginning of this unfortunate and unworthy squabble about the Municipality, been a string of serious blunders without one redeeming feature about them, and the Government reply, of September 20, is pre-eminently the most serious of them. The letter looks like the gruff reply of an ill-natured and ill-tempered pessimist who having unfortunately made a mistake, which he would have given all for not making, deems it necessary, for the vindication of his authority and self-respect many more mistakes of a far more serious nature should be committed, lest a compromise should look humiliating and be misinterpreted as weakness. It is the weak alone,—and not those who are really strong and can afford to have their conduct misconstrued, knowing for certain, that truth carries its own vindication—that are anxious to proclaim to the public to the beat of drum that they are not weak. The letter of the Lieutenant-Governor is petulant from the beginning to the end, and does no credit to his tact, discretion and sense of propriety or to those of his responsible adviser. It could not have been worse, if Mr. Rivers Thompson—who, when the Secretariat forwarded him Mr. Harrison's letter carefully docketted, might have been at his cards, like the redoubtable military Governor of old Calcutta,—had written on any blank space that it might have, with his blue or red pencil that the impertinent prayers of the vain and imbecile Commissioners of Calcutta—a petty and insignificant body in itself—could not be attended to. We are deliberately of opinion that his reply to the last letter of the Municipal Commissioners, which is less a reply than a personal retort to Mr. Harrison, is a studied insult to them and to those whose interests they are supposed to be looking after. They are told, in almost so many words, that they are a set of noodles whose arguments and objections the Lieutenant-Governor is determined no longer to listen to because they appear to his superior judgment as childish and of no weight. The *Englishman* might exultingly gloat over Mr. Harrison's apparent discomfiture, and triumph that no more severe comment was ever made on the conduct of a member of the Civil service than that contained in Mr. Macaulay's letter. The "scathing rebuke administered to Mr. Harrison who has been singled out unmistakeably" is we say any thing but justly deserved and is unworthy of those who, in their serene wisdom, have thought proper to administer it. We are told that the method of argument adopted in Mr. Harrison's letter is foreign to any with which Mr. Thomson is familiar, and he must decline to enter upon a controversy conducted upon such principles. The Secretary then proceeds to tell Mr. Harrison, "The Lieutenant Governor must however express his surprise that you should have considered certain passages, in your letter, to be suitable to the circumstances and the occasion, or consistent with your position as an officer of Government. Your experience in the public service—did no other considerations present themselves,—should have made you sensible of the impropriety of imputing to the Head of the Administration, motives and intentions, which he had already expressly disclaimed and influences inconsistent with the high office which he holds, and he cannot permit you under shelter of your position as Chairman of the Corporation to use language which constitutes a *violation of official courtesy and discipline.*" Could petulance and ill-temper go further, we ask? Are we to understand then that the prayers of the Commissioners, have been rejected, not on any other grounds than the most invulnerable one that their Chairman has committed a breach of official courtesy and discipline? The Secretary is good enough to say that such a violation *has* taken place but does not condescend to tell us, wherein. For a satisfactory explanation we must look to other quarters; and what better quarters can we look to than to, the columns of the *Englishman*, which has frequently drawn attention to these violations, and given us a choice selection of these in a recent issue. It had hitherto been known that it is the *Englishman* that draws inspiration from the Bengal Secretariat; but it had yet to be known that our contemporary has *his* turns of inspiring the Secretariat. Be that as it may, our contemporary's occupation of culling choice bad things whether from the columns of the Vernacular papers or from the letters of Mr. Harrison does not seem to be a most glorious one. We have been looking over the indelicate expressions rather carefully and, although we are inclined to think that some of them had better not been used, we can hardly lay our fingers on one that might be exalted to a violation of official courtesy and discipline. We are sincerely sorry that His Honor should have allowed his temper to get the better of him, and committed an indiscretion which in his calmer moments, we venture to think, he will repent.

Later on in the course of this remarkable document the Chairman is once more roundly taken to task in the following terms:—"It is unnecessary for the Lieutenant-Governor to do more than refer to the terms in which this proposal (of the first Commission) was received by the Commissioners and *to the language used without protest from you* at a meeting of which *you* were Chairman, when the resolutions rejecting the proposal were discussed." What has that to do with the bearings of the case, pray? Poor unhappy soul—that Mr. Harrison, what could he do if the Commissioners chose to indulge in language which the Lieutenant-Governor might disapprove of, to control which the law gives him no authority? We wonder stuff like this should be made the staple of the Lieutenant-Governor's reply. Would he have thought of making use of such a remonstrance had the Chairman not been an official, a junior member of the heaven-born Service of which he happens to be the head! The condemnation of the Chairman reminds us of some foolish Bengali mothers who, when, for some reason or other, dissatisfied with a pack of unruly children amongst whom her own child happens to be and unable to chastise other people's children, beats her own, black and blue. If the condemnation cannot reach the Commissioners direct its force must be made to be felt all the more through their official Chairman.

Mr. Harrison's honest efforts in the interests of the Corporation are to be interpreted "as a bold attempt to lead the Babus of Calcutta in opposition to Government" and it is never to be forgotten that it was Mr. Harrison who was "the *champion of Municipal neglect*, of insufficient sanitary measures and of *dialectic exercises.*" Is not all this a significant hint which a less honest and weaker member of the Civil Service who may be appointed to supersede Mr. Harrison—would be only too ready to take? If the honest efforts of a painstaking, hard-working intelligent and conscientious man like Mr. Harrison, are thus to be ignored, nay rewarded with ignominy, condemnation and grave displeasure of the head of the Government himself, no official Chairman would, unless he is exceptionally independent and able—and their race is fast dwindling amongst the Civilians—care to enlist his sympathies with the Corporation and work for it, as Mr. Harrison has done. Mr. Rivers Thompson should have known as well as any body else, that difficulties of unusual magnitude beset Mr. Harrison all around, and that loyalty to the Corporation which he was deputed to serve and the Government of which he was the servant was inconsistent with each other. In his extremely delicate position he certainly deserved more courtesy and consideration, than Mr. Thompson has thought proper to show him. It is hard to understand why he should have been unmistakeably singled out and why his individual identity should have been separated from that of the Corporation except on grounds which we do not care to advert to. This affords all the more reason why every effort should be made to have an unofficial Chairman for the Calcutta Corporation like the sister Corporation, of Bombay. So long as the Lieutenant-Governor continues to appoint one of the Civilian clique to preside over the deliberations and the Executive of the Corporation, its interests cannot be safe, unless they be in the hands of able and independent men like Mr. Harrison, whose very ability and independence will disqualify them for the post in the eye of the Government.

The rejection of the second prayer of the Commissioners is as painful as the other. Whatever the intentions of the law might have been and they are by no means clear, it is no where expressly stated that the Commissioners should nominate one of their own body, to represent them on the Commission. We ourselves strongly

urged upon the Chairman to sit on the Commission, which he declined to do, for reasons which he explained at length, and with which we were bound to be satisfied. Forthe very same reason did the Commissioners themselves, native and European, decline to sit on the Commission, and there was no alternative but going outside the Corporation. They have appointed the best man they could think of—no matter whether he is an intimate friend of the Chairman or not—and he happens to be a Government servant. The Lieutenant-Governor admits that Mr. Cotton's duties are exceptionally heavy, and if he declines to relieve him of official duties it would amount to refusing to allow him to sit on the Commission. It is opportune that the long holidays of the Calcutta High Court have just commenced, so that there would be no clashing of official duties of the Hon. Mr. Beverley, the Government nominee, with his duties as a member of the Commission. But supposing that the Commission did not happen to commence its operation during the Dusserah vacation, would not Mr. Thompson have relieved the Hon. Mr. Beverley of *his* official duties? and if he did not, the efficiency of the Commission would have been undoubtedly very much impaired. It is not unreasonable to ask that Mr. Cotton should be relieved of his usual duties, considering that Mr. Jones was so relieved, when he was specially deputed last year to enquire into the condition of the sewers of the Town. Not the condition of the sewers alone, but the condition of the whole town has to be enquired into now and we fail to see why the Government should hesitate to make so small a concession. Supposing even that the Commissioners had deputed their Vice-Chairman or some other member of their body who happened to be a Government servant, like Mr. Buckland, would it not have been necessary to relieve *him* of his usual duties in order that the efficiency of the Commission might be increased. The Commissioners did not depute their Vice-Chairman or a Commissioner, Native or European, not because a competent man was not to be found, but because of the extreme delicacy of the position. The Commission has been of the seeking of the Government and not of the Corporation. It is therefore the moral, if not the legal duty of the Government not to throw any avoidable obstacles in the way of their choice. If the report of the Commission is unfavorable to the Corporation, the public will justly hold the Lieutenant-Governor responsible for it, for his having refused to relieve Mr. Cotton of his other duties. *Dilettante* sort of work done in leisure hours after a day's hard work in the office will never do in what is admittedly a long and arduous enquiry, however zealous, honest hardworking and conscientious Mr. Cotton may be, especially without the valuable aid of the Chairman who is shortly going on leave. Supposing that the Corporation had refused to return the 2nd member to the Commission, would not the Lieutenant-Governor have paid the one he appointed if he happened to be a Government servant. The public will take the refusal of the Lieutenant-Governor's as strongly indicative of a partizan spirit, earnest protestations to the contrary notwithstanding, and we cannot say they will be far wrong.

THE PRESS BEARS.

STOCK jobbers on the exchange have long familiarized the public mind to the delicate art of "Bulling and Bearing" in the money market; but whatever might be said of the name, the art itself can hardly have any claim to novelty or originality, having been worked successfully in the various walks of life, in various garbs from time immemorial. Politicians—Machiavelli and the whole crew to boot—have practised it with a deal of success, never dreamt of by the most imaginative of the race of Shylocks, ever since politics itself was exalted—or lowered shall we better say—into an art, and the most recent and perhaps the most interesting phase of it is unmistakably visible in the working of the powerful machinery of the Fourth Estate of the present day. Continental sovereigns are practising it constantly, and British statesmen are not a whit behind them or the times in the cultivation of this noble art. Whenever something extraordinarily dirty or autocratic has to be accomplished, a section—we cannot say as much of the whole of the Press—is set to familiarize the public mind to its working and reconcile public opinion to its objectionable features. Here in India, the *Friend of India* of yore did, and the *Pi* of the present day, does, the fox in the business and *vice* the Serampore "Friend" defunct, the mantle has worthily fallen upon so distinguished a member of the Press as our Hare Street brother. His position, however, is not of the most enviable character and we would humbly venture to point out that Bulling and Bearing, are, in many instances productive of bankruptcy and misery.

The immediate object in pursuit of which and in whose accomplishment our contemporary's wit seems to be now exercised a deal too much, is to prepare the way for and edit and publish a new, revised, enlarged, improved—and if possible a cheaper, edition of the Gagging Act. In this most useful and congenial work he is aided by a powerful auxiliary in the person of a certain "briefless" special—ever a breeder of mischief—who telegraphs and writes home to his heart's content all sorts of nonsense to familiarise the English mind to the approaching event. The "seditious and scurrilous tone which too often displays itself in the writings of the native papers, has," says the special of the *Times*, "become so much more marked during the last few weeks, that many *moderate* and *liberal-minded* men are beginning to ask whether the re-enactment of Lord Lytton's Gagging Act is not a matter of absolute and pressing necessity." Of course the "special" classes himself and his compatriot of the Hare Street under the category of "moderate and liberal-minded men."

Whatever these "moderate and liberal-minded men" may have got to say on the subject—and we by no means are prepared to fancy that they have exhausted their store of foul invectives as yet—we are pained to be obliged to think that they should be inspired from other quarters than their proper abodes. We would fain believe that not to be the case, and we readily admit that we are judging of the cause merely and simply from the effect by a process of ratiocination which though certainly not always the most satisfactory way of eliciting truth, possesses in cases like this a special value of its own. For the honour of the Bengal Government which, we set a high value upon, we are willing to believe that we are mistaken. But the line of policy now unfortunately followed by the *Englishman* and his brethern-at-arms, is strongly suggestive of superior inspiration. The fact of the "special" being one who was until lately one of the Secretaries of the Bengal Government makes it difficult to account for the leaders which have been recently indited for the columns of the *Englishman* on the Vernacular Press—on the Native Press in general we had much better say on any other theory. There is nothing stirring at the present moment to disturb the equanimity of men's mind, no Ilbert Bill to set class against class, no scheme of reorganisation to excite their hopes or fears, and there was every promise of the different nationalities settling down once more into a peaceful community. No sensible editor—and the editor of the *Englishman* is unquestionably one of the most sensible—would at this most inopportune time, think of throwing in our midst an apple of discord; but since he has done so the inference is irresistible that the wires have been pulled from behind him. The regular publication of extracts from native papers affords very strong presumptive evidence in the case. It is scarcely to be supposed that our contemporary is entertaining a highly paid staff to translate the native papers. There cannot be many individual or private bodies which would readily incur the expenses of translations like these, which can serve no useful purpose to any one. The Government of Bengal, on the other hand, does entertain such an establishment and extracts and translations are daily made for its use. At one time these extracts used to be printed and circulated widely; but Sir George Campbell thought that the criticisms on the conduct of Government officers which used to be their most important features, were calculated to hurt their feelings and injure their reputation; it was therefore not the duty of Government to give them wide publicity. The argument told, and orders were issued to restrict the circulation of these extracts amongst the highest officers of the State only—under which category some silly folks would have us place the *Englishman* newspaper. The extracts are issued weekly, and putting two and two together, argue those silly men, it is just possible that the Bengal Government supplies the *Englishman* along with its other high officials, with a copy of these. Supposing the inference to be incorrect, and believing that the extracts are prepared under the orders and at the expenses of the *Englishman* the motive of printing them in a fragmentary and one-sided way cannot be, we are constrained to say, a generous one. For the purpose of judging of the SPIRIT OF THE NATIVE PRESS, which generally heads the extracts our contemporary makes, they are, in themselves utterly worthless, because for the purpose of a correct judgment it is absolutely necessary that both the bright and the dark sides of the native press should be fairly placed under consideration. The line that our contemporary is pursuing, either on his motion or on that of a superior agency, is unworthy, to say the least, of honest journalism, and can deserve but the most unmitigated condemnation.

Nowhere in the world is the public blessed with a strong retentive memory which can ordinarily compare the past with the present. It is even averse to think for itself, because in these days of telegraphs and telephones it is a bore to have to spend much time in thinking upon public questions. The task is therefore generally left to the Press. The editors think out and retail the result of their thoughts at penny-a-day or some such trifle, for the edification and use of the public, and those who avail themselves of the opportunity, to mislead that public, betray the most sacred trust. The daily or weekly publication of stray disjointed sentences calculated to produce a false impression by dint of constant iteration and re-iteration is, we repeat, utterly unworthy of honest jounalism. It reminds us of the pedantic Attic critic who hoped to please the mighty Prince of Egypt by presenting a choice collection of the petty blunders of the blind old Homer and was rewarded by a selection of chaff from out of a rich crop. Chaff and nothing but chaff should be our contemporary's reward for the immense pain he is taking. The revival of the Vernacular Press Act—the *Native* Press Act is what, we fancy, he has set his heart upon—is by no means so easy a matter as our contemporary hopes to accomplish by writing a series of grossly rabid articles, or by publishing extracts or translations not a whit more rabid. The *Times* itself has had to acknowledge that an extreme remedy of a censorship is a stringent, drastic and even a perilous one, which may be necessary for the safety of the vital interests of society, to suppress inflamatory appeals to a vast body of ignorance and passion, though even these statesmen would have to reckon with the inconvenience of suppressing not only the mischief itself, but some premonitory symptoms which it may be useful to take note of. Certainly our London contemporary would not persuade us to believe that the safety of the vital interests of society is in any way endangered. He himself admits that in 1878 it was by no means regarded as clearly proved that the Vernacular Press Act was a necessity, and it was maintained by high authorities that if it was not a necessity, it was a nuisance, and it is the removal of a nuisance—simple and unqualified, that the Englishman and his auxiliaries have thoughtlessly set their hearts upon. Lord Cranbrook, then Secretary of State, though he did not disallow the Act passed by Lord Lytton and his Council, criticised it in no friendly spirit and insisted upon several mitigations of its stringency. The Council of India, continues the *Times*, was much more decidedly hostile to the measure, and Sir Erskine Perry in particular urged that the circulation of the Vernacular newspapers was so small not amount-

ing in the aggregate to more than 100,000 to 150,000 copies weekly, as to be in the midst of a population of 240,000,000, a scarcely appreciable factor in the formation of public opinion.

We ourselves have no desire to rip up the old wounds which, we expected and fondly hoped, had well-nigh healed up, or else we could have extracted column after coloumns from our contemporaries who at every little bit of angry or imprudent passage that they can get hold of, turn up their sanctimonious noses, as seditious and scurrilous. But we cannot help noticing the funny things that have been said by a sapient correspondent of the *Englishman*—a veritable Diogenes, as he calls himself and most reasonably too, we are inclined to concede,—with regard to what we said on this subject in our last issue. The writer begins by complimenting us as a Bengali journal which represents, he believes, the best feeling to be found in the country, and though it has suffered a severe loss in the death of its editor—which none feel more severely than we ourselves do—he does not suppose it can be seriously maintained that all the cultivated loyalty, that existed in Bengal, went out with Rai Kristodas PalBahadur. What the *Patriot* therefore says, continues the writer, on any vexed question of long standing, which has been often discussed may be read as the declaration of the Educated Bengalis' conscience at its best. The writer then gravely goes on to say "what will distress Englishmen who think and feel with me on such subjects, as I know many Christian gentlemen, and particularly missionaries do—is the apparent failure of educated natives to detect both the moral and legal difference between the kind of intemperate language used by Englishmen during the discussion of the Ilbert Bill and the kind of intemperate language indulged in by the native press at all times. I am not now referring merely to the difference in the relative positions of the persons using the strong language. Englishmen were fighting for the defence of a cherished right, whereas much native criticism is wantonly offensive. The intemperate language of Englishmen in the Ilbert Bill controversy, though it was impossible to defend all of it, and I found some of it rather disgraceful, not only for the most part came from *natures that were manly* and *not sneakish*, that were *in sympathy with purity and not impurity*, and that were *thus clean rather than foul*, but was not actionable under the existing law. The intemperate language of the natives I regret to say is much of it the stinging venom of *cowardly souls whose sympathy with foulness is more obvious than their sympathy with pure ideas*" &c., (The italics are ours) We do not know which to admire most, the frankness of confession or the ingenuity of argument which enables the writer to draw so nice a distinction between native and European sedition and scurrility. This emphasises what we said in our last issue, that, what is virtue in the Englishman, will be reckoned a vice in the nigger, because the one does it in a manly, the other in a sneakish way! This is the excellent mode of argument by which those who advocate the revival of the Press Act, but can find nothing wrong in the libelous and imprudent writings in the columns of the Englishman, pursuade themselves to believe or pretend to believe that the whole of theNative Press is scurrilous and seditious—and that all the members thereof deserve to be flogged with whips of scorpion. But these men think it very convenient to forget, that it is the utterances of the Anglo-Indian Press and of the section of English Press allied to it, that goad, so to speak, the members of the Native Press to expressions which it may be difficult to defend and which find no response in the hearts of the people to whom they appeal. We do not care to deny that the pages of our Vernacular papers are sometimes sullied with writing which no body can have any sympathy for; but for every bad article or sentence there are hundreds, nay thousands which are perfectly unexceptionable. And on the whole in rabidness of style, and in rancour of malice they cannot pretend to attain a little of what adorns the pages of some of our Anglo-Indian contemporaries. Why should our Anglo-Indian contemporaries ignore the fact that their attitude with regard to the Francis and Webb cases and similar other cases that are springing up like mushroom all over the country, goaded their native contemporaries to expressions they would never have otherwise used. Had they condemned the conduct of Webb and the like, they would have at once secured the sympathy of the native public. And that is exactly the case in regard to almost all the stirring topics of the day. If the *Englishman* and *his colleagues* are really anxious to see an improvement in the tone of their native contemporaries they have only to effect an improvement in their own tone.

In conclusion we must ask our Vernacular contemporaries to take warning from what is going on around. They need not forget that it is possible to be very strong in language without being "seditious and scurrilous," as some of their well-wishers would make them out to be. A little more careful manipulation of their subject would thwart the foul conspiracy that threatens to engulf them in disgrace and in ruin if possible. It is of paramount importance also that a tone of moderation and forbearance, admirable at all times, should be strictly adopted on the present occasion. It is essential for the safety of the people. We would further point out that a constant watch should be kept over the manner in which the translations are made—because they seem to be bad and distorted in many instances. Whenever a distorted translation appears it ought to be speedily corrected. We throw this out as a hint for those of our contemporaries, who, like the *Indian Mirror*, can afford space for carrying on such an operation for the benefit of the Native Press.

THUGGEE AND DACOITY IN NATIVE STATES.

THE Calcutta correspondent of the *Times*, speaking of the rapid increase in the number of crimes of violence since 1880, especially in Rajputana, Central India, and Hydrabad, says that from 146 in 1880 it rose to 363 in 1883. There is no doubt that these figures do not represent the exact truth. Every one who has the slightest knowledge of the state of the country knows that a far greater number of these crimes are committed every year than what comes within the purview of official reports. British officials credit the Native States with this class of lawlessness, and the Native Chiefs deplore that they do not obtain adequate help from the British Government to root out these crimes. What with vacillation and want of vigorous action on the part of our Government and the Native States the crimes are flourishing to an extent that can be hardly credited. "The Dacoits and Thugs, for the most part reside," says the correspondent of the *Times*, "in the Native States, whence they make frequent raids on to British territory. They form regular tribes, one of the most notorious of which is the Baori tribe in Rajputana. Every man of this race is brought up as a robber. The Association has complete organization, and possesses bold and skilful leaders, and its members are masters of the art of disguising themselves. Other tribes have a hardly inferior organization, and are thus able easily to baffle the police of Native States and to speedily recross the frontier after a successful expedition into British territory." Whether these Dacoits and Thugs live in Native States or British territory, the fact is undeniable that British subjects suffer from their depredations, and the question is what effective steps should be taken to maintain law and order. Shifting of responsibility is very common in India, but it certainly has a limit. An elaborate report by a Superintendent of Thugee and Dacoity detailing the crimes committed every year, and deploring that though law is defied more and more, the British Government is absolutely incapable, under the present circumstances, of effectively dealing with this class of crimes, is a familiar sight, and we are heartily tired of this sort of spurious activity. We want action, and not bombast. It is very probable that Dacoits and Thugs find a shelter in Native States, but that is no reason why the British Government should hold up its hands and declare its inability to protect their subjects from this class of freebooters. "Native Princes," as the *Times* (August 13) justly says, "cannot really like such neighbours better than English Magistrates. The Imperial Government should be able to show them that they can extirpate these nests of hornets, and how. A report by a Superintendent of Thuggee and Dacoity that law is being defied more and more is a pure piece of red-tapeism, unless it be the clear precursor of direct proceedings for an abatement of the mischief at its sources." We would commend these remarks to the Indian Bureaucracy; the rule of irresponsibility which is now in such vigorous force in India is doing an incalculable amount of mischief. With regard to the suppression of the crimes under notice there can be no second opinion that "the public administration of British India must show the individual aggressive energy it manifested through the Malcolms, the Metcalfes, the Sleemans and the Meadows Taylors half a century back." An extensive detective scheme should be matured and carried into effect without further loss of time. Difficulties there are, we freely admit, but these difficulties will never be overcome unless a firm and determined stand be made by our Government. We are really ashamed that these public pests should be allowed to prey upon the people any longer.

ANECDOTA OXONIENSIA.

AN IMPORTANT book has just come to hand. It is Part III. of Vol. I. of the Aryan Series of the "Anecdota Oxoniensia. To the general reader it can have no interest, as it is devoted to a critical and historical examination of two bits of palm leaf preserved in a monastery of Japan, photographs of which have been obtained through the laudable exertion of Dr. Max Muller, to whom Oriental scholars are so deeply indebted for his invaluable researches. The value of the leaves depends on the fact of their being written over in well-formed Sanskrit characters, and the authenticity of the writing opens a new era in the history of Indian paleography. Hitherto the practice has been to accept a dated inscription to be the *guide*, and to relegate all undated ones of the same character to the century to which it belongs. It is very like the process which the New Zealander of Macaulay would adopt were he to find a letter in English of this century on the ruins of London Bridge, and declare all English writing to belong to this century. In other words it was a generalization on insufficient data. Dr. Rajendralala Mitra was the first to raise his voice against this illogical and unscientific method, some 20 years ago, and he has since often protested against it, but only to make Cunningham, Fergusson and other leading lights of Indian Antiquity his enemies. Mr. Burnell took the narrow view, and he, as an Englishman, got the better of the native, and all his countrymen have accepted his dictum. The unquestionable authenticity of the palm-leaves discovered will now force them to adopt a more rational theory, and vindicate the authenticity of some of our ancient systems of writing. The following extract from Dr. Buhler's remarks, which appear as an appendix to the work, will explain the history of the leaves in question:

In their case we can say with full confidence, 'We have good evidence, showing that these leaves were brought to Japan in 609 A.D., and that they came from China. It is further probable that in China they belonged to the monk Yashi, who died in 577 A.D., and before him to Bodhidharma, who emigrated from India to China in 520 A.D.' Leaving all probabilities aside, it is certain that this MS. which evidently has been written by an Indian scribe, cannot date later than the first half of the sixth century A.D. As it is thus proved that a palm-leaf MS. has lasted more than thirteen hundred years, and, in spite of its transmission from India to China, and from China to Japan has remained in very fair condition, and is for the greater part legible, it is no longer reasonable to entertain on general grounds misgivings regarding the age of the Nepalese Bauddha and the Western India *Gaina* MSS., the earliest of which are dated from three to five centuries later. The force of this argument becomes even stronger, if it is taken into consideration that the MSS., belonging to the last two classes, were mostly kept in or near the places where they were written, and frequently left untouched for centuries, as well as that the climate of Nepal and of the dry plain of Western India is more favourable to the preservation of such documents than that of Japan.

Important as is the service thus rendered to us by the *Horiuzi* palm-leaves they yield on closer examination still more valuable archæological and palæographical results. First, they show that the writing materials were exactly the same as those employed later by the Bauddhas and *Gainas*, and that the technical contrivances used by the writer, and his method in forming the letters, partly resemble those still in use among the Indian Lekhakas. Secondly, they prove that in the first half of the sixth century a perfecly developed literary or cursive alphabet was used in Central India, the characters of which are, with the exception of very few letters, identical with those of the most ancient palm-leaf MSS. from Nepal, while they differ from those of the cognate contemporaneous inscriptions, found in the same parts of India. Where they do not agree with the latter, they mostly show more advanced or more strongly modified forms, which in their turn appear in the inscriptions about two hundred years later, i. e. in the eighth century. Hence it is evident that in this case, at least, we have to reject the commonly received theory, according to which the modifications of the characters, used in inscriptions, present a faithful view of the history of the Indian alphabet, and in particular give an ocular demonstration of the gradual development of the literary alphabets. On the contrary it is plain that in this case the characters of the official documents lagged behind those employed for literary purposes, and that they were gradually modified through the influence of the latter.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

THE DURGA PUJA festival has come and gone. There have been the usual devotion, the usual worship, the usual rejoicings, the usual almsgiving, and the usual show of gew-gaw and tinsel to celebrate the national fete. But alas! how many bleeding hearts there must have been in the midst of these festivities—grief gnawing the heart; "grief that does not speak, whispers the o'erfraught heart, and bids it break." Our readers, we know, will forgive us if we do not share in their joy this year. The *Patriot* is in mourning.

WE WILL, take our usual holiday next week. There will accordingly, be no issue of the *Patriot* on next Monday.

MOVED by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, His Excellency the Viceroy has sanctioned the admission of natives to the Opium Department, from which they had hitherto been totally excluded. It is admitted in the letter of the Bengal Government, endorsed by the Government of India, that natives have hitherto been excluded from these offices, *not because they are supposed to be lacking in intelligence or probity*, but because of their *supposed* unfitness for duties, for the satisfactory discharge of which, physical endurance, self-confidence, tact and perseverance are essential. Mr. Rivett Carnac, Opium Agent at Benares, thinks, that natives would do as good service in the Opium Department, as they are doing in the various other departments of the Administration. Natives are employed as *gomastas*, *katidars*, and *zilladars*, and as a contemporary very properly points out that if the qualifications of "tact, perseverance, physical endurance and self-confidence were required any where, they would be mainly necessary in the watchful superintendence of work done in the field by these men." One vacancy out of every four, is now to be thrown open to the natives on the principles of selection and nomination combined, as an experimental measure. But as an experimental measure only and not otherwise, are we prepared to tolerate such a scheme, for twenty-five per cent. cannot be regarded as an adequate proportion after the closest exclusion for a long time. We have no doubt that the experiment will be successful, and we shall then look forward to the proportion being raised to a fair standard. The grades of Sub-Deputy and Assistant Sub-Deputy Agents, whose total number amounts to 79 drawing pay, ranging from 125 to 1200, are now to be open to the natives of India, to the extent of 25 per cent. If the scheme is properly carried out the natives will be profoundly grateful for this opening to them of a department of the administration from which they had been hitherto wrongfully and illegally excluded in direct violation of the pledges by Her gracious Majesty in her Proclamation of 1858.

WE ARE glad to notice that much progress was made during 1883 towards the completion of the Burdwan water-supply scheme, and some good work was done in improving the water-supply in the towns of Berhampore, Dacca English Bazar, and Kurseong. We would wish that the Government should devote its attention to the subject of water-supply in the districts. We know of many places where good drinking water cannot be obtained, and the people are obliged to drink water rendered impure by nature and art. There are villages in which large tanks of good drinkable water were dug by old zemindars, but which are now either drying up for want of repair, or rendered foul by excremental discharges and decayed vegetable matter. If these tanks could be restored, the people in the districts would be really benefited. We have had enough of reports and enquiries; the Sanitary Department should now show that it is doing something which would really improve the health of the province. A Bill to provide for the extension of the Calcutta water-supply to the Suburbs has been introduced in the Legislative Council, and it is hoped that, in the course of the current year, material progress will be made with the works. A scheme has also been framed to provide a supply of filtered water for all the riparian municipalities on the right bank of the Hooghly, from Howrah to Serampore. The difficulties of carrying this into effect have been found more considerable than were anticipated, and some delay is likely to ensue before the details are worked out. The Lieutenant-Governor, we are glad to hear, attaches a high degree of importance to it, and he does not admit that the obstacles are altogether insuperable. Every assistance that can legitimately be given will be rendered, and it is hoped that before long some feasible solution will be discovered. Meanwhile the proposal is under the consideration of Government. If Mr. Rivers Thompson succeeds in framing and carrying out an extensive water-supply scheme in the districts, and thereby removing the crying wants of the people, he will have done something to earn the gratitude of the province. But let not his good resolutions end in talk. Let substantial progress be shown, and we shall be satisfied that His Honor is making his utmost endeavour to improve the health of the population entrusted to his care. We are very thankful to him for the anxiety he shows in this respect, but we are afraid that the zeal of his officers often outruns their discretion.

WE WOULD not be doing our duty as journalists if we do not draw the attention of our readers to the eulogium which His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor has pronounced upon Dr. Payne, the retiring Surgeon-General for his services to the Administration during the last 28 years. In a former issue we expressed our opinion of the value of Dr. Payne's services to the country, and we need not repeat what we have said already. His Honor says that "Dr. Payne has rendered public services of the most exceptional and distinguished character. Nearly every Department of the Administration in which medical officers are employed has had the advantage of his sound judgment and his rare capacity for organization and control." We regret we cannot join His Honor in his estimation of Dr. Payne's worth as a public servant. Every department of the administration with which the worthy Doctor was connected has felt the blighting touch of his hand, and it would be sometime before Dr. Simpson, who succeeds Dr. Payne, will be able to repair the damage done. We cannot forget the injury which the retiring Surgeon-General inflicted upon the Subordinate Medical Service, and we must condemn in the strongest language the character of his administration of the department of which he had charge. The Lieutenant-Governor says that "all branches of the medical department—the Calcutta Hospitals, the Medical Schools, the Lunatic Asylums, the Charitable Dipensaries, and the Canning House for Nurses—have felt the impress of his vigorous administration and the salutary effects of his determined hostility to inefficiency and extravagance." If starving of patients, reduction of the medical staff with a view to its inefficiency, prohibition to prescribe costly, but most efficacious, remedies, and applying of shears where such application would do positive harm,—be virtues which should be praised in glowing terms by the head of the Bengal Government then Dr. Payne is well deserving of the praise given, and a great deal more. With regard to Dr. Payne's connection with the Calcutta Municipality the Lieutenant-Governor says that "in 1876, he became Health-Officer of Calcutta, and it was during his incumbency and at his instance, that the first real steps were taken towards the improvement of the sanitary condition of the Town." The Calcutta Corporation "waved over by that flaming brand," will not long forget the distinguished services which Dr. Payne rendered to the Corporation by promulgation of wild vagaries, the obstruction to real sanitary work, and the waste of Municipal funds,—and last, not least, by his constant endeavour to create ill-feeling between the Government and the Corporation. We wonder His Honor has omitted to mention the invaluable services Dr. Payne has rendered to the "Memorialists" by painting in hideous colours the present sanitary condition of Calcutta; and by calling attention to the ravages of disease and death, and the needless misery and loss of life wantonly and persistently inflicted on the poor and unprotected portion of the inhabitants by the custodians of public health in Calcutta—and thereby inducing His Honor to appoint a Commission under Sec. 28 of the Municipal Act. This would have given a finishing touch to the eulogium, of which Dr. Payne would really have been proud.

WE WITNESSED the performance of "Chaitanya lila" at the Star Theatre the other night. There was much to admire. The scenic effect was fair, and the artistic arrangement of the parts did credit to the critical taste of the Manager. The acting was satisfactory, and the singing exquisite. The actor who took the part of Chaitanya seems to be gifted with considerable histrionic ability. We are bound to say that native Theatres are making fair progress. A good deal of captious criticism has lately been made regarding the profanation of sacred things. We have no intention to tread upon this delicate ground. We would only remind those who make these disparaging remarks that Hindu Music, like the Music of other countries, has, from time immemorial, been practised by persons whose character does not bear a close scrutiny. The history of Music shows that the art owes its origin and much of its development to men of the highest character, who in their time bore the reputation of saints. And yet a great deal of the charm of vocal music is due to artistic modulations of the female voice; and to this cause is owing to some extent the low range of morality of our ordinary musicians. No male voice can rise to the highest octaves except in well trained female voice and hence the necessity of females being associated in the practical exercise of the art, and not unoften many artificial methods were adopted to attain excellence therein. The unsexing of young boys in Italy to strengthen and sharpen their musical powers may not be unknown to many of our readers. As regards the theatrical representation of sacred matters, why, Chaitanya himself encouraged it, and himself took a prominent part in musical exercises to stimulate spiritual passion and sentiment and to excite religious fervour in his hearers. It may be remembered also that in the *Chaitanya-chandrodaya*, the well known religious drama of the Middle Ages, the life and actions of our great religious reformer were dramatised, and the play was acted with enthusiasm in the Court of Prataparudra in Orissa. Even in our own time, no less a personage than the late lamented Babu Keshubchunder Sen, composed a dramatic piece on the New Dispensation, and himself took a prominent part in the acting of it.

THE *Statesman* has done a great public service by publishing *in extenso* an important

minute by Sir Richard Garth on the Bengal Tenancy Bill, as modified by the Select Committee. The remarks of the Chief Justice are exceedingly valuable, and we are sure the Government of India will attach that importance to them to which they are fully entitled. The comments on the Midnapore Rent Case are home-thrusts which it will be difficult to parry. Sir Richard has, with his usual ability and acuteness, exposed all the weak points of the Bill, and his 'legal instinct' has enabled him to point out all the dangers to which the agricultural community will be exposed by the inordinate zeal of our narrow-sighted administrators. We will take an early opportunity of reviewing the minute with that fulness which it deserves. There is one remark of the Chief Justice which we cannot pass unnoticed in this issue. He feelingly observes: "There was a time, when the opinions of High Court Judges, however adverse they might be to those of the Government, were invariably treated with respect. I am sorry to say this is not so now." Comment on this is unnecessary. The Chief Justice concludes his minute with these significant words:

I thought it right in the year 1882, and I think it right now, to warn the Government as earnestly as I can against a policy, which, in my opinion, will ruin, or seriously injure, the large majority of the zemindars, and will be scarcely less injurious to the cultivating ryots.

It seems to me inconsistent with the good faith of the British nation, which the native community have hitherto had reason to respect, to deprive the zemindars of the rights and position which they have acquired under the Permanent Settlement.

I believe it to be not only unjust, but impolitic to sacrifice the fortunes of the zemindars in order to enrich a large body of mahajuns and middlemen, who will neither be responsible to the Government for the revenue, nor be likely to prove as good landlords to the ryots, or as faithful servants to the Crown, as the ancient landed aristocracy of the province.

We endorse every word of the Chief Justice. The landholders of Bengal have great reason to be deeply grateful to him for his noble advocacy of their rights. Such courage in speaking out truth is rare in India and is well deserving of the highest praise we can bestow upon it.

WE REFRAINED from noticing in our last two issues an "Occasional Note" which appeared in the *Indian Mirror* of the 9th instant, as we did not expect any good from keeping up an unpleasant discussion. Our object, however, has been misunderstood, and Mrs. Grundy will not let us alone. We, therefore, revert, not without much reluctance, to the subject. The "Occasional Note" opens with a fling at "the present irresponsible conductors of the *Hindoo Patriot*." But we cannot make out how our responsibility is less than that of our contemporary in the management of his paper; certain it is that if we happen to trip on the libel line we are sure to be hauled up before a court of law, even as he was not very long ago for an alleged similar offence. We are next accused of "disapproving" of Mr. Lalmohun Ghose's candidature for a seat in the House of Commons. How he discovers this mare's nest we know not. There is nothing in our para. to support such an inference. On the contrary, we distinctly said that if the zemindars did not subscribe, there was no reason why the project should fall to the ground, and recommended that the Indian Association and the National Fund should defray the cost. We are then treated to a "challenge," —not to make him a target for our hair-trigger at ten paces, nor to let him have a chance shot at us from that distance—oh dear, no, nothing so murderous—but to prove the truth of our allegation that Mr. Ghose had identified himself with the Bengal Tenancy Bill. This is moderate enough; nor need we ransack old files of newspapers to maintain our position. We can do the needful very easily if our friend will deign to answer the following questions:—1st. Is not Mr. Ghose the agent or representative of the Indian Association, and if that Association is not before the public with a pro-Tenancy-Bill card in hand? 2nd. If so, can the representative, consistently with his allegiance to the Association, neglect to support the Bill? 3rd. If Mr. Ghose be not a representative *now*, was he not lately a delegate of that body, and is there any thing to show that he has since changed his political opinion? 4th. Is not Mr. Ghose provided with funds by the Association, or by the leaders, prime movers, or friends of the Association? 5th. Are not those leaders, or some of them, touting for subscriptions, going about from zemindar to zemindar to help them with funds for the support of a gentleman who was, and probably still is, their agent in England, working to promote the passing of the Tenancy Bill? 6th. Has not Mr. Ghose supported Lord Ripon's policy through thick and thin, without any exception, apologising only for the failure of the Ilbert Bill, the blame of which he throws on Sir Auckland Colvin? 7th. Has he ever made any exception of the Tenancy Bill in his wholesale laudation of the policy of the Government—a Bill which concerns the well-being of the entire agrarian population of Bengal, and for the Bengalis is the most important Bill that has come up before the legislature? Our contemporary says, "Mr. Ghose, in his recent speeches, has, it is true, not taken up the vexed question of the Tenancy Bill, but his silence on this point has been mainly due, we are assured, to a desire on his part to acquaint himself thoroughly with the details of the measure before committing himself to any decided opinion." We have received no such assurance ourselves, but we accept the assurance our contemporary has got, and then ask him—should a person, who was a delegate once, or in other words an admirer of the Bill, and is now trying to understand the details of it, come to the conclusion that the Bill is a good one, what becomes of those who are now called upon to pay for his making up his mind? The claims of the zemindars might be all unreasonable, but they insist on them, and should Mr. Ghose reject their claims, they would be—well, not to mince matters—completely sold. Such a contingency in the case of one who has not yet made up his mind, is by no means improbable. Doubtless he is an advocate by profession, and is at perfect liberty to take his brief now from one party and a while after from another, whichever party comes up to him. But in Parliament he is not to go in as a paid advocate, but an impartial judge, and his former, if not his present, delegacy cannot inspire confidence in zemindars until he avows what his card will be. Our contemporary does Mr. Ghose a wrong by saying that he has not yet understood the policy of the Tenancy Bill. No Bengali can pretend to know any thing of the politics of Bengal who avows his ignorance of the land-law of the country. Mr. Ghose has devoted his entire public life to politics, and can never make such a confession.

DR DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN CONSUMPTION.—Allen G. Chattaway, Esq., District Medical Officer Leominster, testifies, as follows, to the unparalleled efficacy of this celebrated Oil in the treatment of Consumption:—"Having for some years extensively used Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil, both in public and private practice, I have no hesitation in stating that its effects are very far superior to those of any other Cod Liver Oil. Nearly four years since, two cases of confirmed Consumption were placed under my care. In both, the lungs were a mass of tubercular desposit and every possible sound to be heard in Phthisis was present. The sole remedy employed was Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil; and now the patients are strong and fat; the diseased (abnormal) sounds nearly inaudible; and in the one case (male), hunting, fishing, and shooting are freely indulged in, the patient expressing himself quite capable of undergoing as much fatigue as any of his fellow-sportsmen." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints, and quarts, with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper, by all chemists, druggists and store-keepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar Harford & Co., 210, High Holborn, London.

Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette,—*24th September* 1884.

General—30th Augt—Mr. G M Goodricke, Depy Colr and Supdt of Excise Revenue, Calcutta, has been granted by the Secy of State for India an extension of extraordinary leave for one month without pay.

15th Sept—Baboo Issur Chunder Paul, Sub-Depy Colr employed on survey work in Midnapore, leave for two months from 16th Octr next.

Baboo Shama Churn Dutta to act as Sub-Depy Colr for employment on survey work in Midnapore, during absence of Baboo Issur Chunder Paul.

Baboo Gour Das Bysack, Depy Magte and Depy Colr Jessore, held tempy charge of the Narail Sub-Divn of that dist, from 13th Augt to 3rd Sept 1884 inclusive.

17th Sept—Baboo Shama Churn Das, Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Mymensing, leave for eighteen days, from 24th inst.

Baboo Nowrungi Lall, Sub Depy Colr, is to act as a special Depy Colr for employment on Butwara work in Durbhanga, vice Baboo Buthandeo Narain, from date he joined his appmt.

18th Septr—The order of 5th June last granting leave for two months and five days to Moulvie Mobaruck Ali, Offg Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Sawan, Sarun, is cancelled.

19th Septr—Moulvie Mahomed Abdul Kadir, Depy Magte and Depy Colr, in charge of the contai Subdivn of the Midnapore dist is vested temply with the powers of a colr under Act X of 1870 in that Sub-Divn.

Mr. C A Samuells leave for two months, from date he may be relieved of his present apptmt as Offg Magte and Colr of Chittagong.

Mr R H Anderson, Offg Jt-Magte and Depy colr, Barh, Patna, leave for thirty one days from 4th prox.

Mr G K Lyon, Offg Jt-Magte and Depy Colr, Hajeepore Mozufferpore, is transfd to Patna, and is appointed temply to have charge of the Barh sub-divn of that dist, during absence of Mr R H Anderson.

Mr W M Smith, Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Doomka, Sonthal Perghs, leave for fifteen days, from 13th Octr next.

Mr W H Grimley, Magte and Depy Colr, Howrah, leave for three days, in extension of leave granted 7th Augt last.

Mr H L Harrison, Comr of Police, Calcutta, leave for twenty-two days, from 6th Octr next.

Mr G S Henderson, Barr-at-Law, is apptd sub protem Chief Presidency Magistrate, Calcutta, from 11th inst, vice Mr F J Marsden, on leave.

20th Septr—Baboo Gobind Prosad Sookool, Offg Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Julpigoree, leave for one year, in extension of leave granted on 25th June last.

22nd Septr,—Baboo Soorya Coomar Agasti, M A, to act as a Depy Magte and Depy Colr, and is posted to the sudder station of Purneah.

Police—18th Septr—Mr J Patch, Dist Supdt, of Police, Cuttack, to act in second grade of Dist Supdts of Police, from 2nd inst.

Mr E M Showers, Dist Supdt of Police, Chumparun, leave for one month, from 15th inst.

Mr E Muspratt, Offg Asst Supdt of Police, Shahabad, to act as Dist Supdt of Police, Chumparun, during absence of Mr E M Showers.

Advertisements.

Notice.

Probate of the last Will and Testament of the Honorable Kristo Dass Pal, Rai Bahadur, C. I. E. late a member of the Council of the Governor-General of India for making Laws and Regulations deceased has been granted by the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal in its Testamentary and Intestate Jurisdiction to Baboo Kader Nauth Dutt a Deputy Collector of Calcutta and Baboo Radha Churn Pal, the son of the deceased two of the Executors named in the Will of the said deceased.

Calcutta, 22 Septr. 1884. } WATKINS, & Co. Attorneys.

POSTAL NOTICE.

From 1st October 1884, a change will be made in the form of application for Inland money orders, and a coupon, or slip, will be attached to each, which will be delivered with the money order to the payee without extra charge. The object of the coupon is to enable a remitter to write to the payee the purpose for which the money order is sent, or any other message he pleases. The coupon will be retained by the payee.

2 Forms can be obtained gratis at the Post Office as before. The remitter will have, as at present, to fill in the amount of the order, the payee's name and address and his own name and address on the receipt and acknowledgment. Remitters will continue to receive acknowledgments for their money orders signed by the payees.

3. Remitters must fill in the side of the form printed in Black. The reverse printed in red ink is to be filled in by the Post Office only.

SIMLA, 25th September, 1884. } A. U. FANSHAWE *Offg. Director General of the Post Office of India.*

POSTAL NOTICE.

BRITISH POSTAL ORDERS.

1 With effect from 1st October 1884, British Postal Orders for fixed sums, from 1s. to £1, will be available for sale to the public at all Head Post Offices, and will be obtainable on application to any Sub-Post Office from its Head Office.

2. The following are the amounts for which British Postal Orders are issued, together with the

cost of each order in Indian currency, including commission and exchange :—

Amounts of British Postal Orders.		Cost in Indian currency, including commission and exchange.			Amounts of British Postal Orders.		Cost in Indian currency including commission and exchange.		
s.	d.	Rs.	A.	P.	s.	d.	Rs.	A.	P.
1	0	0	10	9	4	6	2	14	0
1	6	0	15	9	5	0	3	3	0
2	0	1	5	6	7	6	4	11	6
2	6	1	10	3	10	0	6	4	3
3	0	1	15	3	10	6	6	9	0
3	6	2	4	3	15	0	9	6	3
4	0	2	9	0	20	0	12	7	6

Notes.—The cost of a British Postal Orders is liable to vary slightly owing to fluctuations of exchange. The rate of exchange in force can be ascertained from the Post Office.

3. British Postal Orders issued from any Indian Post Office are payable at any Money Order Office in the United Kingdom (including the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man) and at Gibraltar and Constantinople.

4. The purchaser of a British Postal Order must, before parting with it, fill in the name of the person to whom the order is to be paid, and may fill in the name of the money Order Office (in the United Kingdom, &c.) at which the amount is to be paid. If the name of a Money Order Office is not entered by the purchaser, the order will be payable at any Money Order Office named by the payee.

5. The purchaser should keep a record of the number and date and name of the Office of Issue of the order, to facilitate enquiry if the order should be lost.

6. After a British Postal Order has once been paid, to whomsoever it is paid, the British Post Office will not be liable for any further claim.

7. If any erasure or alteration be made, or if the order is cut, defaced, or mutilated, payment may be refused.

8. After the expiration of three months from the last day of the month of issue, a British Postal Order will be payable only on payment by the payee of a commission equal to the amount of the original British poundage marked on the order.

SIMLA, 25th September 1884. } A. U. FANSHAWE, *Offg. Director General of the Post Office of India.*

POSTAL NOTICE.

TELEGRAPHIC MONEYORDERS.

With effect from 1st October 1884, Telegraphic Money Orders will be obtainable at all Money Order Offices.

2. A Telegraphic Money Order is an order granted by the Post Office for payment of a sum of money through the agency of the Post Office, the remittance being advised from one Post Office to another by telegraph, and payment being made at the payee's residence. Telegraphic Money Orders will be payable at any Money Order Office.

3. If there be no Government * Telegraph Office at the station of issue the order will be sent by post to the nearest Government Telegraph Office for transmission onwards by telegraph. If there be no Government Telegraph Office at the station of payment, the order will be sent by post from the nearest Government Telegraph Office.

* Railway (Guaranteed or State) Telegragh Offices are not Government Telegraph Offices within the meaning of these rules.

4. The rates of commission on Telegraphic Money Orders are as follows:—

							Rs.	A.
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,, exceeding	,,	25	but not	exceedg	Rs.	50	... 0	12
,, ,,	,,	50	,,		,,	75	... 1	2
,, ,,	,,	75	,,		,,	100	... 1	8
,, ,,	,,	100	,,		,,	125	... 1	14
,, ,,	,,	125	,,		,,	150	... 2	4

5. A uniform charge of Rs. 2 is made for the telegram advising the remittance, irrespective of the amount of the remittance, provided the amount does not exceed Rs. 600, payable to the same payee. These telegrams are sent "urgent."

6. The remitter may write on the coupon attached to the Money Order from any private message he desires to communicate to the payee. Such private message will be added to the telegram advising the remittance, and will be charged for at the rate of 2 annas a word. The remmitter may also prepay a reply under the ordinary rules of the Telegraph Department.

7. An official acknowledgment by telegraph of payment of the remittance can be obtained by the remitter. The charge for an ackowledgment is Re. 1

8. Payment of a Telegraphic Money Order will be made at the residence of the payee by the postman, immediately on receipt of the telegraphic advice by the Office of Payment. With the amount of the order a copy of the telegram will be delivered to the payee.

9. A copy of the detailed rules can be had on application at the Post Office.

SIMLA, 25 September 1884. } A. U FANSHAWE *Offg. Director-General of the Post Office of India.*

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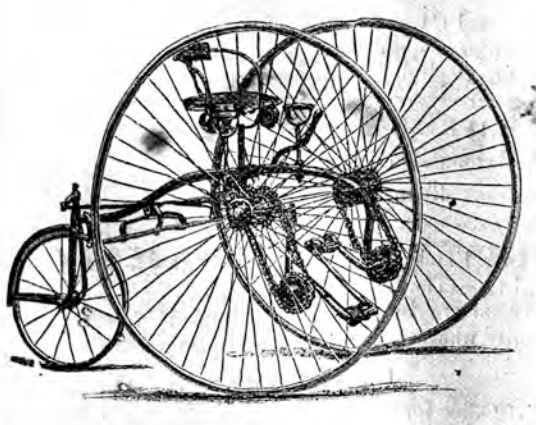

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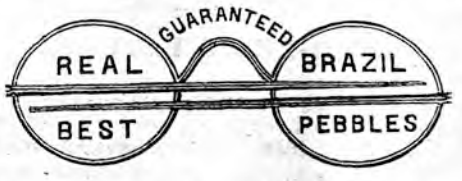

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